

CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
TOPIC	Military Activities at the Altengrabow Training Grounds and in Neustrelitz, Potsdam and Rathenow		25X1
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED	
DATE OF CONTENT			25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	8 July 1955
REFERENCES			25X1
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS	This is UNEVALUATED Information		25X1
			25X1

1. On 17 June 1955, the Nordlager (5001) at Altengrabow was still occupied to capacity by approximately 1,200 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets including some with artillery insignia. Six 160-mm mortars were seen in emplacements at the small training ground north of the installation. The emplacements were 20 to 25 meters apart. Sixteen guns of 120 to 150 mm were seen at the gun parking lot in the southwest portion of the installation. According to local residents, the Suedlager was occupied by 6,000 to 8,000 soldiers. Soldiers seen en route to and from the camp wore red-bordered black epaulets, predominantly with artillery insignia. 25X1



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2. Between 7 and 12 June, the Alte Grenadier Kaserne (2225) and the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse in Neustrelitz were still occupied to capacity by the known artillery units, each numbering an estimated 500 soldiers who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Although the Neue Infanterie Kaserne (2221) was fully lighted on 8 June, it was the impression that the installation was occupied by only about 1,000 soldiers. Elements from the installation were apparently in the summer camp in the Speck area. 2
3. On 18 June, numerous fresh imprints of tank tracks led from the Potsdam-Wildpark railroad station to Ludendorff Kaserne (2292). Three 152-mm gun howitzers and 6 Z-65 prime movers were seen in the barracks yard. Individual imprints of tank tracks led to the south section of the Delius Kaserne (2289). It was learned that many heavy guns with prime movers passed through the town and proceeded toward the barracks installations during the morning of 17 June. 3

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4. At 1900 on 18 June, 3 guns, presumably 45-mm AT guns or 76-mm infantry guns, and 1 truck were detrained at the Rathenow Nordbahnhof and left for the Infanterie Kaserne (5441). 4

5. Between 1100 and 1800 on 19 June, 4 x 122-mm field howitzers, 4 rocket launchers, 8 x 160-mm mortars, 20 x 45-mm AT guns, 32 trucks, 6 sedans, 1 radio truck, 1 repair shop truck, 2 field kitchens and, on 10 boxcars, approximately 400 soldiers were loaded at the Rathenow Nordbahnhof. Elements of the units had come from the direction of Bamme and Neue Schleuse (new lock). It was noted that soldiers hurried to the three Waldkasernen, picked up all baggage, dismantled wires and insulators of the main line to Ziethen Kaserne (5444) and took them along. 5

1. Comment. The information indicates that, prior to mid-June, the Altengrabow training grounds was occupied as previously by the 44th Army Arty Brig permanently stationed there, the bulk of the 6th Arty Div and 2 brigades of the 34th Arty Div.

2. Comment. Tank units of the 9th Gds Tank Div may have been stationed at the Speck-Granzin firing range for exercises in early June. All components of the 495th (?) Arty Regt from the Alte Grenadier Kaserne, the 234th Mort Regt and the 126th Gds RL Bn from the restricted area on Gerhart Hauptmann Strasse were apparently at their home installations at that time.

3. Comment. According to another source, 8 gun howitzers of the 34th Arty Div had been entrained for Altengrabow on 16 June. It is believed that, from the imprints of the tracks of these weapons, source of the present report, previously assumed that loadings had taken place. According to the other observations by this source, however, it appears possible that rear details of the two Altengrabow brigades from Ludendorff Kaserne and the south section of the Delius Kaserne had been loaded on 16 June.

4. Comment. These were presumably new guns for the 6th Arty Div. According to previous reports, approximately 350 guns of this type had arrived from the USSR at depots in the Soviet Zone on 4 June. As mentioned in the reference report, these guns may be new recoil-free armor-piercing weapons.

5. Comment. The purpose of the loadings cannot be determined. According to the weapons observed, rear details of the various brigades of the 6th Arty Div stationed in Rathenow may have been loaded. The soldiers were apparently alerted and, some of them from the training area, unexpectedly transferred. This assumption is supported by the observation that some soldiers picked up their entire baggage at the kaserne. The dismantling of lines to the Hq IV Arty Corps in the Ziethen Kaserne cannot be explained, since there are no indications that the 6th Arty Div was to evacuate the Rathenow post. For information on the 20 x 45-mm AT guns, Comment 4.

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